PDS, open market sale of wheat by FCI to curb speculative increases in prices, higher releases of sugar for the open market, import of one lakh tonne of edible oils and reducing stock limits for edible oil by 50 per cent during the festival season.

		Inflation rate as on Oct. 30		
		Annual rate 1993-94	% change 1993	over March 1992
	All Commodities	7.9	7.7	6.8
I.	Primary articles	8.1	10.6	5.4
	Food articles	7.3	10.2	8.3
	Food grains	10.9	11.5	—1.4
	Rice	9.4	12.7	2.9
	Wheat	13.5	6.0	—4.1
	Fruits & Vegetables	9.5	17.5	17.6
	Non food articles	7.8	10.2	7.0
II.	Fuel Power light & lubricants	13.2	8.1	10.0
III.	Manufactured Products	6.8	6.0	7.1
	Food Products	11.1	13.3	8.8
	Sugar	15.5	5.7	4.2
	Edible oils	—1.6	12.1	5.9

Self clearance of Excise

*77. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government allowed "self clearance" of excise on all goods;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the norms fixed for allowing self clearance by the Excise department.

THE MINISTER OF STATES IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Self-clearance, which is formally referred to as the "Self-Removal Procedure", is at present applicable to all excisable goods except (i) Cigarettes (ii) Mathes.

(b) Detailed procedure is built into Rules 173A to 173Q of the Central Excise Rules 144, the underlying principle being to do away with physical control on production and removal of excisable goods and instead, to rely on the records maintained by the producer|manufacturer.

(c) Items which are prone to duty evasion and which have high incidence of duty have been excluded from the facility of Self Removal Procedure.